



NEW CITY CHURCH

MEMBERSHIP COVENANT

As Christians, we are members of God's household called to function, participate, and minister in a particular place within the body of Christ. A healthy body requires that each member do its part well. (Eph. 2:10; 4:12). New City Church holds its members in high regard; we expect them to lead as missionaries of the gospel to the culture.

"For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them..." -Romans 12: 3-8

Being a member of New City Church is about being part of a family. All members are disciples of Jesus, unified by their identity in Christ. This unity is expressed in the way they collaborate in loving God, loving fellow Christians, and loving non-Christians. Members who enter into a covenant with their local church are called to a higher degree of responsibility and service. At the same time, the elders are covenanted to assist members first and foremost, to love and lead, provide counsel and aid, and pray for, teach, and guide them.

What is a covenant?

A covenant is a promise by which we obligate ourselves to one another in such a way that the obligation of one party is not dependent on the faithfulness of the other (Ezek. 20:44; 36:22; Ps. 76:11; 3:1; 2 Tim. 2:13). Though the covenant does define the relationship between members and the church, it is first and foremost a promise made to God as a commitment to his glory and his bride, the church (Eph. 5:25).

Obligation of New City Church to its members

1. We covenant that your elders and deacons will meet the criteria assigned to them in the Scriptures (1 Tim. 3:1-13; 5:17-22; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-4).
2. We covenant to seek God's will for our church community to the best of our ability as we study the Scriptures and follow the Spirit (Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 5:1-5).
3. We covenant to care for you and seek your growth as a disciple of Christ, in part by equipping you for service (Eph. 4:11-13) and praying for you regularly.
4. We covenant to provide teaching and counsel from the whole of Scripture (Acts 20:27-28; Gal. 6:6; 1 Tim. 5:17-18).
5. We covenant to exercise church discipline when necessary (Matt. 18:15-20; 1 Cor. 5).
6. We covenant to set an example and join you in fulfilling the duties of church members (1 Cor. 11:1; Phil. 3:17; 1 Tim. 4:12).

Statement of faith for covenant membership

1. I am a Christian saved by faith in Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior, through his death and resurrection, by which I am assured of eternal life (John 3:16-18; Rom. 3:23-26).
2. I believe Jesus Christ is exactly who he claimed to be (Isa. 53:6; Matt. 26:64; Mark 14:62; Luke 22:70; John 4:25-26; 6:29; 8:58).
3. I have repented of my sins and have been made a new creation in Christ (1 John 1:9; 2 Cor. 5:17).
4. In obedience to Scripture, I have been baptized to personally identify with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus, and to publicly demonstrate my commitment as a disciple of Jesus (Col. 2:12; 1 Peter 3:21).
5. I agree that the sixty-six books of the Bible are the ultimate doctrinal authority on all matters (Is. 55:11; 1 Cor. 15:3-4; 2 Tim. 3:15-16; Heb. 4:12).

My obligation to New City Church as a member

1. I will maintain a close relationship with the Lord Jesus through regular Bible reading, prayer, fellowship, and practice of spiritual disciplines. (Ps. 105:1-2; Ps. 119:97; Acts 2:42-47). It is my desire, by God's grace, to walk in holiness as an act of worship to Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 5:17).
2. I will steward the resources God has given me, including my time, talents, and treasures. (Prov. 3:9-10; Rom. 12:1-2; Gal. 5:22-26; Eph. 4:1-16; 5:15-18).
3. I will engage in meaningful Christian community, either through a Community Group or other consistent form of biblical community. (Acts 2, 3, 4)
4. I agree to live out the mission of Jesus in my daily life and by sacrificially serving others, whether Christian or non-Christian. (1 Corinthians 12:4-10)
5. I covenant to submit to discipline by God through his Holy Spirit and to follow biblical procedures for church discipline in my relationships with brothers and sisters in Christ if the need should ever arise (Ps. 141:5; Matt. 18:15-17; 1 Cor. 5:1-5; 2 Cor. 2:5-8; 1 Tim. 5:20; 2 Tim. 2:25; Titus 1:9; 3:10-11).

I understand that this covenant expresses my desire to be one with the members of New City and is an acknowledgment of my submission to the elders of the church. I accept the responsibility to notify New City leadership if at any time I can no longer commit to this covenant, or if I have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding New City Church. I further understand that each year New City Church clears its membership roll and asks that everyone, who so desires, recommit to covenant membership at that time.

Printed Name: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____